

## Mayor's Message

July 2010

If you have ever visited my office in City Hall, you would be able to tell from my desk that it is a working office. As I recently reviewed my calendar and documents that were placed there, I found some items and events that may be of interest to you.

There was some recent flooding of Murray Park, Myrtle Avenue and Vine Street, which brought a great response from the community and our departments. As the word went out that we were looking for volunteers, you responded, ready and willing to help fill sandbags. I believe much damage was diverted due to our joint efforts. City staff also did an outstanding job of keeping people safe and protecting assets. Our Emergency Operations Center was activated to establish a local state of emergency, giving us the opportunity to better coordinate all efforts and track the costs of this event. As the run-off slows, we are asking for **volunteers to help us as we remove the sandbags on Saturday, July 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 a.m. at the Murray Park Amphitheater parking lot.** This flood provided a great example of how our community pulls together in an emergency.

As I mentioned in last month's message, the judges arrived from 'America in Bloom' and spent several days touring Murray. They will provide a detailed analysis of how our City looks, along with suggestions for improvements in the future. As we drove through the streets of our town, I was impressed by the beautiful yards. I appreciate the effort our residents make to care for their yards and businesses. Congratulations to Von and Janet Wells for a winning project in the "Look What We Did" contest.

Almost 100 residents joined us to see the introduction of the plans for our downtown area. I am excited about the vision that has been created as a place for us to begin discussions. Many elements are included in the plan, such as more opportunities for height and density, historic preservation, open space, housing options, community services, retail and office space, with an emphasis on sustainability. I hope you will go online to [www.murray.utah.gov](http://www.murray.utah.gov) to review the plan and join us at one of the upcoming meetings.

This past month, a partnership with NeighborWorks of Salt Lake City has been put in place in our City and will provide options for residents who need help with housing issues. NeighborWorks brings a wealth of talent, experience and resources to help us serve those struggling with housing concerns. We will share more about them soon.

As you can see, cleaning my desk helped me remember what wonderful things can be accomplished with the help of active residents. Thank you for your support of our City. I hope you enjoy your summer activities.